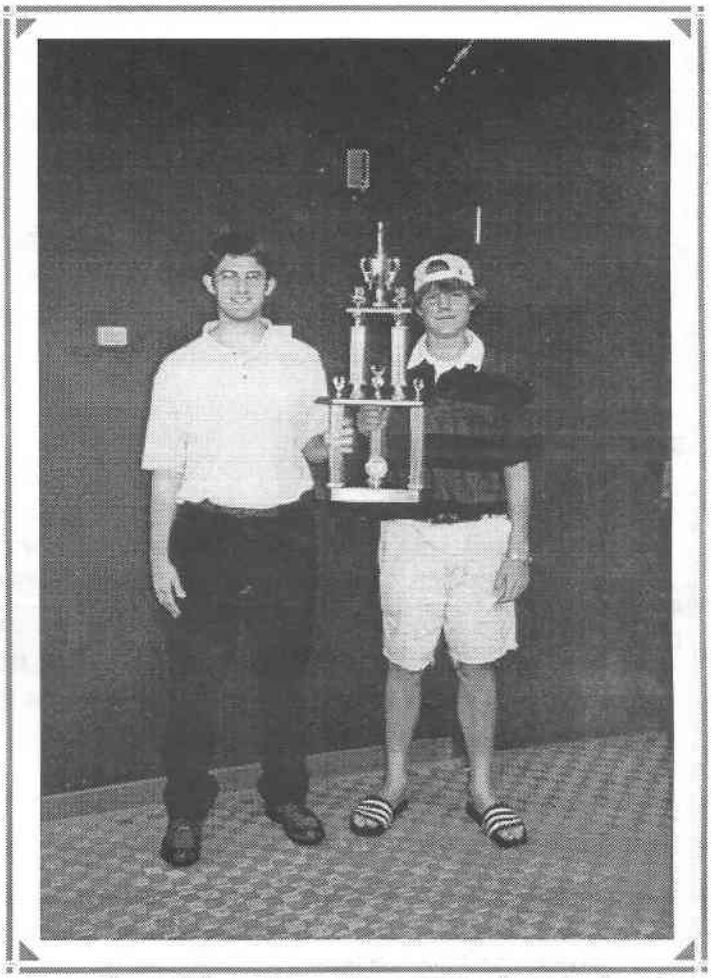
Alabama Chess Antics

November 1998 - January 1999 **$3.00**

ACF President Bill Melvin accepts State Champion Trophy from TD Rich Bellezza.



State Championship Reserve Section winners Josh Wakefield and Thomas Elmes.

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President's Letter *by Bill Melvin*

Welcome to the final Antics of 1998. I suppose we'll have to throw a big party in the next issue (like it's 1999 --- get it?). Okay, I'll stay away from the comedy. I've got plenty to discuss this time anyway.

The 1998 Alabama State Championship was a big success this year. Then again, I can't exactly be objective about it as I obviously had more fun than most (details elsewhere in this issue). However, all is not smiley faces in the world of Alabama adult chess. I have been told that the Magic City Open (one of our mainstay adult tournaments) will not be held this year. I am also told that the wonderful Fairfield Glade tournament (one of the southeast's mainstay adult tournaments) in Crossville, Tennessee will not be held again. I am hopeful that some other organizers can step forward and start new traditional tournaments to take the place of these events.

At the State Championship Business Meeting, elections were held for new officers. I am happy to report that Vasha Rosenblum, Jack Mallory, Rhodes Peele, and myself remain as Executive Board officers. We all ran unopposed and didn't get to do any mudslinging. Our loss.

Lamar Daniel did not seek re-election as ACF Vice President. He has been busy playing tournament bridge (quite successfully I might add) and would rather spend his time in support of this endeavor. I enjoyed working with Lamar as I could always rely upon his sound judgment whenever I was unsure about anything. More than once he pulled me back into the world of sane people. I'm sure I'll still be calling him occasionally for his opinion. I'll miss you, Lamar.

In positive news, Caesar Lawrence ran unopposed for the office of Vice President. As many of you know, Caesar is an outstanding organizer of adult and scholastic chess in the Montgomery area. He also plays an exciting game of chess. I really appreciate Caesar agreeing to serve and I'm confident the perspective he brings to the Executive Board will be most valuable. Welcome aboard Caesar!

Renewals for adult ACF members has declined recently. As a result, we voted at the Business Meeting to send adult ACF members a reminder notice as the expiration date of their membership nears. I am optimistic that this will help us retain existing members and grow!

Since the last Antics, Vasha Rosenblum completed and distributed the booklet entitled "Alabama Scholastic Chess 1998-1999 Schedule." She did an amazing job on this and it is a work of art. If you haven't seen it, then contact Vasha as it is a definite must read for Alabama scholastic chess.

I now have children in Kindergarten, First Grade and Second Grade. So, it seems like an excellent time to start up my first chess club. My wonderful wife, Pam, and I are doing just that at Chaffee Elementary School in Huntsville. We had 26 enthusiastic chess players for our first meeting (out of a student body of 320) and we have high hopes. I'm sure I'll become more empathetic to other volunteers at Alabama schools as a result of this experience. Now, how does the horsie move again...

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue. I'm hopeful that we can get more people to contribute to the magazine and keep it fresh. I hear compliments from chess players in surrounding states about the consistent high quality of our magazine and that makes me proud. It was mentioned at the State Championship that the Antics may have won an award for "Most Improved State Magazine" at an awards ceremony during the U.S. Open. We certainly deserve it whether we won the award or not! Such an award is shared by all who have contributed to the Antics. Let's keep up the good work!

A Sicilian Miniature *by Ulric Aeria*

1998 Alabama State Championship
Montgomery, Alabama
September 7, 1998
30/90 SD/1
Sicilian Najdorf (B97)

Ulric Aeria (2096)	**Patrick Alford (1679)**
1.e4	**c5**
2.Nf3	**d6**
3.d4	**cxd4**
4.Nxd4	**Nf6**
5.Nc3	**a6**

The Najdorf Variation.

6.Bg5	**e6**
7.f4	**Qb6**

The Poisoned Pawn Variation-this ultra-sharp choice by my opponent surprised me.

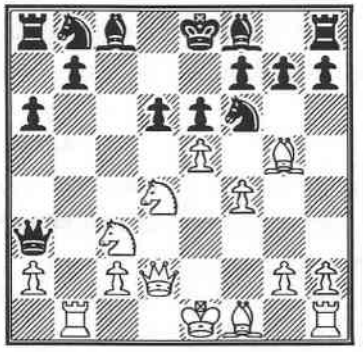
8.Qd2	**Qxb2**
9.Rb1	

9.Nb3 is playable, I suspect that the only reason Spassky employed this in the 13th game of their World Championship match in Reykjavik 1972 was to avoid Fischer's considerable theoretical knowledge with 9. Rb1 and pull out his own novelty Nb1 later.

9...	**Qa3**
10.e5	

10.Bxf6, the positional variation, was played by GM Bruno Parma against Fischer no less than on three occasions ... without success. A good alternative to the text is 10.f5.

10...	**dxe5**



*Position after **10. e5***

In one of the very first games with this line at the Goteborg Interzonal in 1955, Yugoslav master Adrija Fuderer played 10...Nfd7 against the legendary Paul Keres and was smashed after 11.f5 Nxe5 12.fxe6 fxe6 13.Be2 Nbc6 14.Nxc6 bxc6 15.Ne4 d5 16.0-0 Qa4 17.Bh5+ Kd7 18.Rxf8, 1-0.

11.fxe5	**Nfd7**
12.Bc4	**Nxe5?!**

Typical of Alford's provocative "matador" style. For me, we are in "terra incognito" (unknown territory) from this point. 12...Qa5! Fischer's continuation

13.Nxe6!?	**fxe6?**

A natural recapture and losing move 13...Qa5 is the only move and leads to a very complicated position.

14.Qd8+	**...**

The Black monarch is forcibly driven to the "killing fields" where there is no escape.

14...	**Kf7**
15.Rf1+	**Kg6**

Up to this point, we both played fairly quickly and used up about 15 minutes each. Now I went into a deep 46-minute think, sensing mating possibilities and calculating everything out.

Hopeless for Black is 15...Kg8 16.Qxc8 Qxc3+ 17.Bd2

16.Rf6+	**...**

Someone like Karpov would term this a "flashy" move as 16.Bd3+ also mates by force.

16...	**Kxg5**
17.Ne4+	**Kh5**

He could have held out a few more moves with 17...Kg4 but 18.Be2+ also mates

18.Rf5+	**Kh6**
19.Qg5#	

1 - 0

For me this was a consolation to a rather spotty tournament performance (3.5 points out of 6). Unfortunately, for my honorable opponent, Patrick Alford of Tuscaloosa, this loss denied him a considerable financial prize as he was having the "Tournament of his life" beating two strong experts and needing only a draw to clinch the under 2000 prize. Chess can be a such cruel game.

Two Games from the Alabama State Championship *by Bill Melvin*

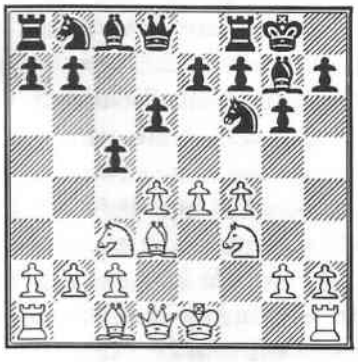
The 1998 Alabama State Championship went rather well for me. Not only did I win the Championship clear for the second time (and my fifth overall), but I played better than usual. I believe I was only clearly lost in one game (my last round game against Caveney given below). Here are two games from my 2550 performance.

1998 Alabama State Championship
Montgomery; 9/5/1998
30/90, SD/1; Round 3, Board 2
Bill Melvin (2240) Talaibek Osmonbekov (2128)
Pirc Defense (B09)

1.	**e4**	**d6**
2.	**d4**	**Nf6**
3.	**Nc3**	**g6**
4.	**f4**	**Bg7**
5.	**Nf3**	**O-O**

The other critical line against the Austrian Attack is 5. ... c5. After 6.Bb5 Bd7, 7. e5 Ng4, 8. e6, the position is both complicated and highly theoretical.

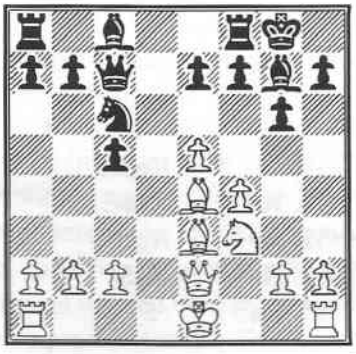
6. Bd3 c5?!



Position after 6. ... c5 ?!

I'll be generous and not give this an outright "?". However, I am not a big fan of this move as 6. ... c5 is the one move that 6. Bd3 is designed to prevent. ECO (Encyclopedia of Chess Openings) believes the move gives white a big edge and my tournament experiences playing against it have only been pleasant.

7.	**dc**	**dc**
8.	**e5**	**Nd5**
9.	**Nd5**	**Qd5**
10.	**Qe2**	**Nc6**
11.	**Be4**	**Qd8**
12.	**Be3**	**Qc7**



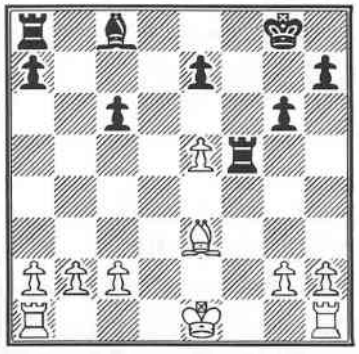
Position after 12. ... Qc7

ECO only considers 12. ... Qa5, 13. c3 with white obtaining a big edge. Since the threat of Qf2 is so strong here, the ECO line gives 13. ... Bf5, 14. Bf5 gf5, 15. Qc4 Rac8, 16. a4 with a big edge for white in Ivanenko - Gufeld, SSSR 1963.

13. Qb5 f6

Just how easy is my position to play? I believe I have had nearly the exact same position after my 13th move on the board before. At this point, I have used 8 minutes to my opponent's 45 minutes. All this and I'm winning a pawn by force! Isn't chess easy? But, my opponent is very dangerous and I have to start thinking after his 13th move. Black is going to get some counterplay so white needs to grab the pawn and hold on for dear life.

14.	**Qc5**	**fe**
15.	**Bc6**	**bc**
16.	**Ne5**	**Be5**
17.	**Qe5**	**Qe5**
18.	**fe5**	**Rf5**



Position after 18. ... Rf5

My opponent has decided to attempt to hold an inferior opposite colored bishops ending. This may be the wisest choice under the circumstances. White has immediate problems guarding the e-pawn. For instance, 19. Bd4 c5, 20. Bc3 Bb7, 21. Rg1 Rad8 and I'm not sure white can claim any advantage.

19. O-O-O! Be6

No, both sides didn't just miss the hanging pawn. 19. ... Re5 would have been answered by 20. Rd8 Kf7, 21.

Bd4 Rf5 (...Re2?, 22. Rf1 Ke6, 23. Rff8 wins a piece), 22. Re1 and white has all the play.

20. Bd4	**Bd5**
21. Rhg1	**a6**
22. b3!	**...**

White must fight for the light squares to avoid a draw. White has the better pawn structure as well as an extra pawn. Under such circumstances, the presence of rooks on the board often provides plenty of winning chances.

22. ...	**Rc8**
23. c4	**Be6**
24. Rge1	**a5!?**
25. a4!	**...**

White is more than happy to fix the a5 pawn on a dark square. Notice how much easier the a5 pawn will be to attack than its counterpart on b3 which is easily defended by white's king.

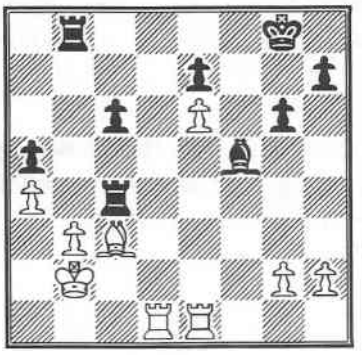
25. ...	**Rb8**
26. Kc2	**Rf4**
27. Bc3?	**...**

This is my second worst move of the tournament (see the next game for my absolute worst). Simply 27. Kc3 or just about anything else should keep white's advantage. White now loses back the extra pawn.

27. ...	**Bf5**
28. Kb2	**Rc4**
29. e6!!	**...**

(diagram next column)

I played many moves in this tournament that I am proud of and this one makes the short list. This move isn't obvious at all. Since the e-pawn is intruding into the heart of black's position on a white square, it is bound to eventually go lost. In return, white gains some dynamic advantages. For instance, after the routine 29. ... Ra4??, 30. Be5 wins a rook as the b8 rook is overloaded and must either give up the backrank or the pin on the b-file. The threat of Be5 forces black to move the c4 rook immediately.



Position after 29. ... e6 !!

Although the position is complicated, 29. ... Re4 appears to be the strongest move here. I still suspect that white may have an edge, but the position is unbalanced enough such that the person who sees the most will probably win.

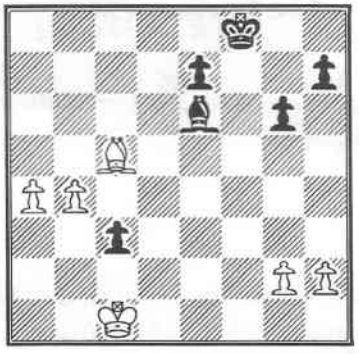
29. ...	**Rc5!?**
30. Rd7	**Kf8**
31. Ra7	**Rd5**
32. Ra5	**Ra5**
33. Ba5	**c5**

White has won back the extra pawn, but positions like this can be hard to play. With his last move, black has made the position sharp by fighting for dark squares. I thought it was clear that I owned the dark squares, but my opponent wants to play c5-c4 and create threats with his own passed pawn. Confident that two pawns could beat one, I boldly pressed on.

34. Re5	**Rc8**
35. Bb6	**c4**
36. b4	**c3**
37. Kc1	**Rc6**

This was the type of position I had foreseen. White's king is mated except there is no check. I calculated that the black rook had no easy access to white's back rank. Also, I was confident that an Exchange sacrifice would be correct should black's rook attempt some heroics. For example, after 37. ... Rc4, 38. Bc5 Rf4, white can pleasantly decide between 39. Re1 and the advance of the a-pawn or 39. Rf5 and white's two connected passers escorted by a bishop should be decisive. Notice how black's rook and c-pawn cannot make any progress at all against the white king in this variation.

38. Bc5	**Re6**
39. Re6	**Be6**



Position after 39. ... Be6

We now have a pure bishops of opposite colors endgame. Material is even for the moment although white will shortly be a clear pawn ahead. In many endgames of this type, a single extra pawn is insufficient to win. Here, however, white wins easily. Notice how the white pawns are used to help contest the light squares. Black's only chance is establishing a blockade on light squares and white can prevent this by carefully advancing the pawns with king support.

40. Kc2	**Bd5**
41. g3	**Ke8**

42. Kc3 Kd7
43. b5 Bg2
44. a5 Bf1
45. Kb4! e5
46. a6 Kc8
47. Ka5! resigns

1 - 0

Black has no defense to b5-b6-b7 followed by Bd6 and queening the b-pawn. Sacrificing the black bishop for the two pawns is insufficient as well.

Osmonbekov continued to have an excellent tournament after this game. He ended up with 5 points and this game was the only blemish on his score.

1998 Alabama State Championship
Montgomery; 9/5/1998
30/90, SD/1; Round 6, Board 1
Adam Caveney (2195) Bill Melvin (2240)
Irregular Opening

1. f4 d5

This game is my final game from the 1998 State Championship. I knew that a draw guaranteed me the Alabama State Champion title clear and decided not to object if the position became drawish. As it turned out, a win was worth $500, a draw $300, and a loss $0! Strong Georgia players Stephen Muhammad and Talaibek Osmonbekov posted 5 points apiece and I had to at least match them to get any money.

This setting clearly had an impact on the entire game. For example, my customary method of meeting 1. f4 is to immediately play 1. ... e5 (From's Gambit). Yes, I know that I would be sacrificing a pawn under unclear conditions and that white might choose 2. e4 and make me play a King's Gambit. Nonetheless, this is all I have ever prepared against 1. f4 and I haven't gotten around to removing the variation from my opening repertoire.

In this tournament situation, I don't want a complicated pawn down position at all. I want something dull and drawish. A closed position sounded like a lot of fun.

2. Nf3 f5?!

OK, so now I'm a looney! I REALLY wanted a closed position. This is surely too much, though. In effect, I'm telling white that his first move was so bad that I could do the same! I doubt that any opening books recommend my move.

3. b3 Nf6
4. Bg2 e6
5. e3 b6
6. a4 Ba6

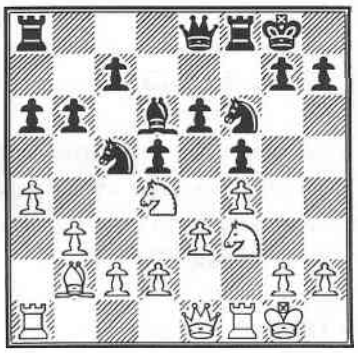
My strategic plan is pretty sound here. I am aiming to trade off light-squared bishops. The resulting position should go okay for black as white has pawns fixed on dark squares. I was hoping to eventually get an endgame where I could exploit white's dark squared bishop. This is wishful thinking with it located on the fine a1-h8 diagonal.

7. Ba6 Na6
8. O-O Bd6
9. Nc3 O-O
10. Nb5 Nc5

Black isn't interested in 'protecting' his bishop by moving it away at all. Exchanging on d6 would be a serious error by white. Black would retake with the c-pawn and take e5 away from white's remaining knight. Additionally, black could put pressure down the c-file where moves like c2-c3 start to make the white bishop bad. After coming to the conclusion that exchanging on d6 was bad for white, I decided to ignore the invasion and get my offsides knight into the game.

I offered a draw around here and my opponent wisely refused. His tournament position required him to win at all costs. I figured it couldn't hurt to ask. I now officially had draw odds!

11. Qe1 a6
12. Nbd4 Qe8



Position after 12. ... Qe8

I was a little uncomfortable about 13. Ng5 and planned 13. ... h6, 14. b4 hg5, 15. bc5 Bc5, 16. fg5 with hopes that black would have the better pawn structure. Nonetheless, white has a lot of activity here (look at that wonderful bishop!) and I'm not sure that this isn't a playable line for white.

13. d3 ...

White's choice is positionally sound as it takes e4 away from black's knights and fights for white center squares.

13. ... h6
14. h3 Ncd7
15. Nc6 Bc5!?

White's 15th move was a bit surprising. I had originally planned to try and exchange this knight by playing 15. ... Nb8. But, I got a bit worried

about losing time after the obvious 16. Nce5. Instead of this approach, I decided to just ignore the knight. It isn't threatening anything at the moment so I might as well just sit tight.

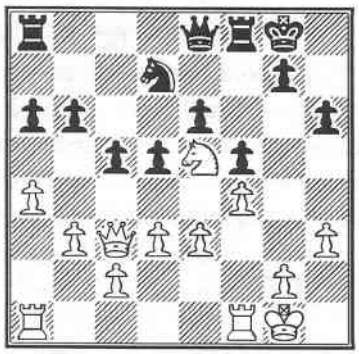
16. Bd4 Bd6

Black admits that move 15 wasn't too strong. Of course, 16. ... Bd4, 17. ed4 would be a huge positional mistake as white might even triple rooks and queen on the e-file in an effort to win this pawn. I decided that d6 wasn't such a bad square after all.

17. Nce5 c5

This move may be a positional mistake. I really need to avoid putting pawns on dark squares (the same color as my bishop).

18. Bb2 Be5
19. Be5 Ne5
20. Ne5 Nd7
21. Qc3



Position after 21. Qc3

21. ... Ne5?

Black is in too big a hurry to exchange pieces. The draw in this dull position is almost in sight, yet black allows white to have an actively posted queen. Nothing good can be said about black's play over the next several moves.

22. Qe5 Rf6?!

Black planned 22. ... Qe7 followed by ...Qf6 but noticed that white could just play Qe5-d6 and harass the queenside pawns. With 22. ... Rf6 black is planning ... Qb8 and the offer of a queen exchange. As soon as the white queen retreats black should have an even ending.

23. c4! ...

White justifiably opens the position. Black has a misplaced rook to go with white's active queen. The planned 23. ... Qb8? is met strongly by 24. cd5 and black must lose material (24. ... Qe5?, 25. fe5 and black is not happy.

23. ... dc
24. dc Qb8?!

I should win a stubbornness prize for sticking with my original plan. I had assumed that white would just retreat his queen and I could play ... Rf8 and fight for the d-file. White smells blood and seeks to exploit his advantage.

25. Qb8! Rb8
26. Rfd1 ...

If black could only play 26. ... Rd8 here, the position would be even. Black is much worse because this move cannot be played.

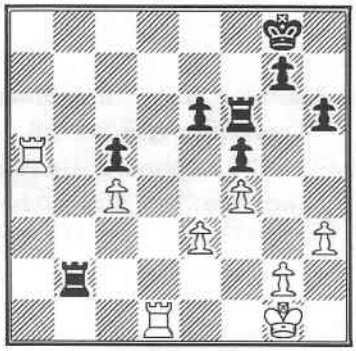
The biggest problem with black's position is the d6 square. Natural moves by black should lose: 26. ... Rff8, 27. Rd6 Kf7, 28. Rad1 Ke7, 29. Rc6 and black still cannot oppose rooks on the d-file without losing the queenside pawns (and the game).

I finally decided that black had an activity problem --- he doesn't have any! If you can't get your rooks to open files, then you must create open files for your rooks. Black's movemust be the best try.

26. ... b5!
27. ab ab
28. Ra5 ...

White probably should have played an active move such as 27. Rd6 instead of this continuation. I had hoped that white might play 28. Ra7 bc, 29. Rdd7 Rg6, 30. bc Rb1 and black may even have the advantage.

28. ... bc
29. bc Rb2!



Position after 29. ... Rb2!

Activity is everything in rook and pawn endings. Continuations like 29. ... Rc8?!, 30. Rd6! must be much worse for black (Rd6-b6-b5 is threatened). If you must make passive rook moves in a rook and pawn ending then you are probably losing anyway. You might as well look for an active move which gives away some pawns.

30. Rc5 Rg6
31. Rc8 Kh7
32. g4 fg
33. h4 ...

Both players had seen this position clearly after 29. ... Rb2. Both sides undoubtedly thought they were better

now. I was hoping that the g-pawn could prove to be strong. Yet, immediately advancing it even loses: 33. ... g3??, 34. h5 Rg4 (or Rf6), 35. Rdd8 and black gets mated after a few spite checks.

After analyzing this variation, it became clear that 33. ... h5 was the best attempt. This would lead to the following forcing variation: 34. Rc5 Kh6, 35. Rd8 (threatening mate) Rf6, 36. Rh8 Kg6, 37. Rhh5 and white will even win the g pawn with an eventual Rg5.

I now realized that I was in a tough bind. Both of the main variations I had analyzed appeared to be lost. It was only now that I found the key to this position. The rook on g6 is misplaced even though it is behind a passed pawn. I need to activate this rook at all costs. Once I realized that the g6 rook moving to a6 prevented white's mating attack (by threatening mate for black), the rest became clear.

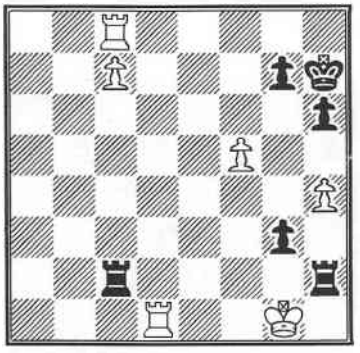
33. ... e5!!
34. c5 Ra6

White took over 30 minutes before playing his 34th move and offered a draw with the move. Black has at least a perpetual check, so I correctly refused the offer. If this game isn't a lesson in rook activity, then I don't know what is!

35. c6 Raa2
36. c7 Rg2
37. Kh1 Rh2
38. Kg1 Rag2
39. Kf1 Rc2
40. Kg1 ef
41. ef g3

All is going well for black. Black to move would win trivially by Kg6-h5-h4-h3 and Rcg2 and Rh1 mate. With an f-pawn (instead of a g pawn), black would win easily by Rcg2 and Rh1 mate. Yet, the pieces must work together differently to force mate with a g-pawn. I had never thought about any of this before, but I hit upon the mating setup while my opponent was thinking about his move.

42. f5 ...



Position after 42. f5

42. ... Rh4??

With one hasty move, I throw away my position and $500. I was so fixated on my checkmating setup that I didn't even consider the effects of 42. f5. Black's king is now threatened and I had to play 42. ... Rhf2 and play might proceed 43. Rf8 Rc7 with a probable win for black. For instance, 44. f6 would be correctly met by 44. ... gf! and the connected passers will quickly be decisive. Other tries include 44. h5 Rc5, 45. f6 Rf6, 46. Rf6 gf6, 47. Rd7 Kg8, 48. Kg2 and black can decide between trying to win the highly complex ending after 48. ... Rh5 or playing 48. ... Rg5 (best) and advancing the f-pawn.

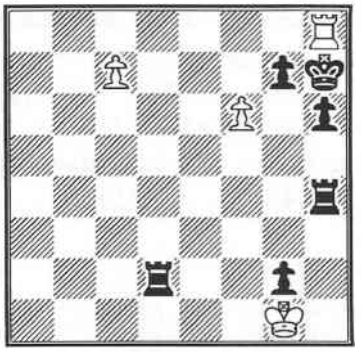
43. f6?? ...

Oh my! White just threw the game away. Simply 43. Rdd8 forces immediate checkmate. Both white and black had become fixated on the d1 rook being tied to the back rank. Black has no immediate mate threat and was just totally lost. White became too fixated upon the game continuation and didn't consider anything else.

43. ... g2!

My original plan with 42. ... Rh4.

44. Rd2 Rd2
45. Rh8 ...



Position after 45. Rh8

White's point! White has perpetual check after 46. ... Kh8, 47. c8 (Q). White missed black's response or else he would not have blundered on move 43.

45. ... Kg6!
46. resigns

0 - 1

A Game with the KID* *by Stephen Muhammad*

* *FIDE Master Stephen Muhammad didn't supply a title for the following annotated game, so I had to make one up. The acronym of course refers to the opening rather than to Mr. Muhammad's opponent, who we Alabama chessplayers know as the "Great American". - Ed.*

1998 Alabama State Championship
Montgomery, Alabama
September 5, 1998 Round 4
King's Indian Defense
Brent Inman (2148) Stephen Muhammad (2354)

1. d4	**Nf6**
2. c4	**g6**
3. Nc3	**Bg7**
4. e4	**d6**
5. Nf3	**0-0**
6. Be2	**e5**
7. 0-0	**Nc6**
8. d5	**Ne7**
9. b4	**...**

King's Indian: orthodox, Aronin-Taimanov, bayonet attack.

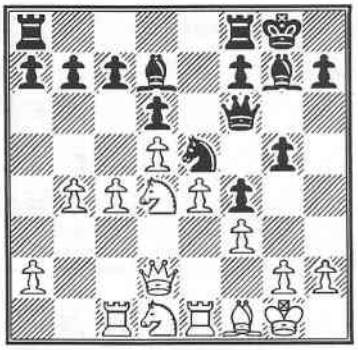
9. ...	**Nh5**
10. Re1	**...**

Also playable is 10. c5 Nf4 11. Bf4 ef 12. Rc1 h6 13. h3 g5 14. a4 Ng6 15. a5 Re8 16. Nd2 Bc3!? 17. Rc3 with a slight pull for white according to MCO.

10. ...	**Nf4**
11. Bf1	**Bg4**
12. Bf4	**ef**
13. Rc1	**g5**
14. Qd3	**Ng6**

I was very happy with the outcome of the opening. I felt that once my knight reached e5 I could begin creating threats against white's Kingside.

15. Nd4	**Ne5**
16. Qd2	**Qf6**
17. f3	**Bd7**
18. Nd1	**...**



Position after 18. Nd1

White was justifiably worried about 18. c5? Nc4 or even 18....Ng4.

18. ...	**g4**
19. fg	**Bg4**
20. Nf2	**Bd7**
21. Be2	**f3**
22. Nf3	**Bh6**
23. Qc2	**Be3**
24. Qc3	**Nf3+**
25. Bf3	**Qc3**
26. Rc3	**Bd2**
27. Rec1	**Bc1**
28. Rc1	**f5?**

Practically throwing the advantage of the exchange away! With 28.... a5 black would have an easier time activating his rooks and would also have greatly limited white's counterplay.

29. c5	**Rae8**
30. h3	**Bc8**
31. cd	**cd**
32. Rc7	**Rd8**

32...Rf7 was out of the question because of 33. Rf7 Kf7 34. Bh5+.

33. ef	**Bf5**
34. Rb7	

Here my opponent offered a draw which I seriously considered accepting.

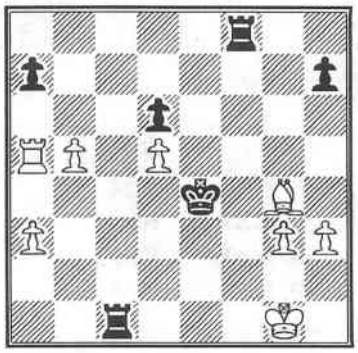
34. ...	**Rf7**
35. Rb5	**Kg7**
36. Ra5	**Rb7**
37. a3	**Kf6**
38. Ng4+	**Bg4**
39. Bg4	**Ke5**
40. g3 ??	

A fatal mistake; after 40. Ra6 Black still has his work cut out for him.

40. ...	**Rf8**
41. Be6	**Rc7**
42. Bg4	

White's last two moves indicate a complete state of confusion.

42 ...	**Ke4!**
43.b5	**Rc1+**



Position after 43. ... Rc1+

White cannot stop mate...

44. resigns

0 - 1

A Southern Icon *by Bobby N. Edwards*

Alabama does not have a Hall of Fame for chess, but Tennessee does and Robert Scrivener is one of 10 chess players to be inducted there. I think you will find this Bio and his long life of chess adventures interesting reading.

Robert Silas Scrivener, know as "Uncle Bob": was born on 11 October 1881 in Mobile, Alabama. He saw his first game of chess in the early '90's in New Orleans at the Southern Yacht Club where his father had taken him to see a billiard exhibition. While there he saw two men playing chess. His father played but Bob did not learn the moves until about 1900 (age 18) when he began playing in Memphis in 1904. There he played in his first tournament and did not win a game! After the tournament, one of the clubs best, B.B. Jefferson took him aside and trained him for the next year. Bob won the 1905 Memphis Championship!

"Uncle Bob" Scrivener

In 1913 he and Jefferson entered their first big tourney, the Western in Chicago. Jefferson won the tournament. Bob finished in a tie with E. Michaelson for 5th and 6th in a field of 18. He continued to play in a number of Westerns until about 1929, when he went into Aviation and dropped out of chess for a number of years. In 1935 his Company, the Chicago and Southern Air Lines, (which later became a part of the present Delta Air Lines) moved to St. Louis and he was persuaded by the St. Louis chess boys to try his luck with them. Bob played in his first St. Louis District Tournament in 1935-36 and was fortunate enough to win it! The next year a newcomer appeared to give them all a run (Erich Marchand). They both played in the next five St. Louis District Tourneys and each won two and the odd one was won by Edwin Woody. Marchand and Bob have played over one hundred hard battles over the years. Each having great respect for the other.

Uncle Bob's company returned to Memphis in 1941, and except for weekly games in the Veterans Hospitals in Memphis during the war years he did not play chess except a few games of correspondence for another 15 years. About that time the USCF Championship was held in New Orleans and a delegation headed by Hunter Leslie Weaks represented Memphis. A number of old timers ask about Bob, and no one on the Memphis team had ever met him. They told inquirers that they did not know whether he still played or not. One old timer told them: "Look him up. Make him play in the next City Tournament. He may be rusty but he will beat the socks off of you." So they roused him out of his lethargy and Bob played in and won the 1955 Memphis Championship, just 50 years after he had won it the first time!

Since then he played in three Alabama Opens, tieing in game scores for first in 1955, but losing to a fine young Memphis player, J.A. Wright, (Another Hall of Famer) on tie-breaking points. Bob won the Alabama Open in 1957 finishing ahead of two USCF rated experts. He won it again in 1959 at the age of 76 years old.

In 1956 Uncle Bob finished in a tie for second and third in the New Orleans (La. Open) Tourney won by Irene Vines. In this Tourney there were some half dozen USCF Experts, and sharing 2-3 position with Newton Grant, he finished ahead of Al Buckland, A.L. McCauley, A.M. Lockett Jr., a total of 47 New Orleans District players. He received a special prize for the Best Played Game in this Tourney. I am told the committee was unanimous in this selection.

(continued on page 14)

Improving your Chess Game *by Bobby N. Edwards*

In this article I will share with you one of the great secrets in making a better chess player. That's what we all want is it not? It is so simple you probably overlooked it in your training. I once read there have been more books on chess written than on any other subject. The reason is clear, players are hungry to learn and win at chess and they will pay in "quantity" if not "quality" to master it. However, it should be clear by now the answer is "You can't learn chess from just books!" You can learn some things but you will reach a topping out point. Therefore it is our learning approach that is the key to making us really good players or just average players.

(1) Master Marty Appleberry, who some of you will recall, won many southeastern tournaments during the 1970's & 1980's. In December 1975 Marty wrote an article for *Chess Antics* stating his basic belief about success in chess: "Think for yourself". When I finally took this to heart, it changed my chess play forever! He is not alone in his thinking. Emanuel Lasker in his famous work "Lasker's Manual of Chess" states:

> "I want to train pupils to think for themselves and exercise just criticism. I will not teach them mere formulae, mere generalities, but will instill into them lasting principles that will grow and blossom; which are alive and vital. They must be ready and willing to put their conceptions, laws and valuations to the proof, again and again, diligently and cheerfully, from a sheer joy of the law and from veneration of the fact."..... "Education in Chess has to be an education in independent thinking and judging. Chess must not be memorized, simply because it is not important enough. If you load your memory, you should know why. Memory is too valuable to be stocked with trifles. Of my 57 years I have applied at least 30 to forgetting most of what I had learned or read, and since I succeeded in this I have acquired a certain ease and cheer which I should never again like to be without."

(2) Returning to Lasker again, he says to make a good chess player you need 200 hours of Play and Analysis. This will vary with individual study but on the average 1-2 years time. This should put you in the 1500 - 1800 rating range.

(3) My education of chess came from two books, as I was from a poor family. (And one of these was given to me.) They were Alekhine's *My Best Games of Chess 1924-1937*. The other was Horowitz's *Chess Openings- Theory & Practice*. This was a blessing in disguise and is your 3rd lesson. Do not buy so many books, buy a few good ones and study them deep.

(4) After your play has reached a certain level you must began to analyze your play and look for weakness in your game. This is not hard - but maybe boring. For example, learn to recognize which grandmaster style of play you are and make him your mentor. If for example your play is similar to Alekhine, learn all about his games. This will help embellish your style.

(5) Next run a few statistics on your games. Are you losing more with black or white? Maybe is it a certain opening that is giving you trouble, but you refuse to give it up. For years, my problem was that I like to play Alekhine Defense. I had a terrible record with it. After I dropped it from my play my won games with black went up. Do you lose games "on time" a lot? If so, then practice the pacing of your moves. Make a list of your good points and then your bad points. You may want to get a good friend that knows your game to help you.

(6) Do not consider any "laws" of chess only maxims. There are always exceptions to the rules. I know some players that avoid at all cost double pawns or putting a knight on the edge of the board. (you know "a knight on the rim is dim"). Think of all the interesting games you are missing out on by standing by some maxim. Double pawns maybe are weak but they also lead to an opening of a file - for rooks etc. True the end game maybe is lost but as another old saying goes "before the end game the gods have placed the middle game".

Caro-Kann ... Nd7 Variation *by Albert Gower*

When Gary Kasparov played 7. ... h6 and lost the sixth and final game of his 1997 match with Deep Blue, Caro-Kann players everywhere said, "Everyone knows you don't play h6 in that position". The purpose of this discussion is not to try and second-guess his reasons for playing the move, but to examine the variation beginning with 5. Ng5 to try to determine if black can hope for anything better than a hard fought draw when playing the ... Nd7 variation.

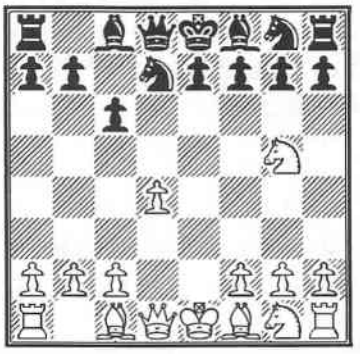
The variation in question begins with the moves:

1. e4	**c6**
2. d4	**d5**
3. Nc3 or Nd2	**dxe4**
4. Nxe4	**Nd7**

In "Understanding The Caro-Kann Defense" published by R.H.M. Press in 1980, this is called the "Solid Line" in a chapter authored by Julio Kaplan. It has become the preferred move of positional players including Anatoly Karpov who has used it in many important encounters. The purpose of the move is to support the King Knight at f6 and to avoid the doubled pawns that would arise if black played ...Nf6 immediately. Kaplan discusses what he considers are white's two main variations, 5. Nf3 and 5. Bc4 and makes no mention of Deep Blue's move, 5. Ng5.

Jeremy Silman in his "Caro-Kann Defense for Black", published in 1984 by Chess Digest, also makes the statement that these are the main tries for white but in addition discusses 5. Ne2, 5. Qe2, and 5. c4. Again with no mention of Deep Blue's next move.

5. Ng5



Position after 5. Ng5

In his excellent book, "Kasparov and Deep Blue" published in 1997 by Simon and Schuster, Bruce Pandolfini calls this, " a strange-looking move, of the kind you would expect a computer to play" but goes on to say, "Sorry to disappoint you, but humans were there first." John Hall ("Opening Systems For Competitive Chess Players", Hays Publishing, 1992) calls this move a "bizarre-looking sortie" but claims it "can prove dangerous if Black is unaware of the proper replies". The move gained the attention of chess players in 1983 when played in a match between Semenova and Muresan at Bad Kissengen and has been played often in Grandmaster games since then.

5. ... Ngf6

This is black's first opportunity to go wrong with ... h6. For example, 5....h6 6. Ne6 fxe6 7. Qh5+ g6 8. Qxg6 mate. After the move actually played, Qh5 is prevented.

6. Bd3 e6

Again, ... h6 would allow 7. Ne6 and then if fxe6 8. Bg6 mate. Many blitz games have been decided this way.

7. N1f3 Bd6

Kasparov played ... h6 and resigned at move 19! The text move is considered to be the most reliable move and has been Karpov's choice for at least 10 years.

8. Qe2 h6

Finally ...h6 is playable and black hastens to drive the Knight away.

9. Ne4 Nxe4

Black is happy to trade pieces and remove some of the threats.

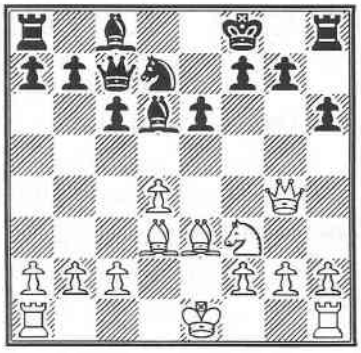
10. Qxe4 Qc7

10...Nf6 11. Qh4 keeps black under great pressure, Although Karpov's 11...Ke7 was successful in Kamsky-Karpov, Dortmund 1993, recent improvements have been in white's favor. (See Morozevich-Iordachescu, in the June 1998 Chess Life, page 451.)

11. Qg4 Kf8

Is there a better way to guard the g pawn? Earlier this year at Linares 1998, Anand tried 11....Rg8 and resigned at move 35. Kasparov had white!

12. Be3



Position after 12. Be3

This position was reached three times in a recent quick-play (30 minute) match between Judith Polgar and Anatoly Karpov. Karpov tried ... c5 and lost, ... b6 and drew, and ... Nf6 draw.

The remainder of the game featuring 12. ... Nf6 was: 12...Nf6 13. Qh4 b6 14. O-O-O Bb7 15. Rhe1 c5 16. dxc5 bxc5 17. Nd2 Nd5 18. Nc4 Nxe3 19. Nxe3 Rb8 20.Qc4 h5 21. h3 Be5 22. c3 Bf6 23. Be4 Bc8 24. Qa4 g6 25. Qc6 Qxc6 26. Bxc6 Kg7 27.Nc4 Ba6 28. Ne5 Rhd8 29. b3 Rxd1+ 30. Kxd1 Rb6 31. Bf3 Rd6+ 32. Kc2 Bh4 33. g3 Bg5 34. Rd1 Rxd1 35. Kxd1 Bf6 36. Nc6 Bxc3 37. Nxa7 e5 38. Be2 Bb7 39. Nb5 Ba5 40. Nd6 Bg2 41. h4 f5 42. Bc4 Nc7 43. a4 Bd5 44. Ke1 f4 45. a5 Bxc4 46. Bxc4 Bxa5+ 47. Ke2 Kf6 48. Bd3 Bc7 49. Kf3 1/2-1/2

In Karpov's defence, however, Polgar did switch to the Panov attack the final time she had to meet his Caro-Kann.

The question remains, is Ng5 just a "duffers" move or is it the refutation of the ... Nd7 variation? Undoubtedly many improvements remain to be found for both white and black.

Please e-mail your suggestions and/or comments to:

Albert Gower
Huntsville, Alabama

(continued from page 11)

The best prize was Euwe's complete *Archives* in English and he could now do some study on the openings for the first time in his life.

He was elected President of the Western Chess Association on three occasions, the first in 1913, and the last was in 1928 or 1929.

In the Westerns he played such magnificent players as Sammy Reshevsky, Carlos Torre, A. Kupchik, H. Hahlbohm, Sam Factor, H.Steiner, Norman Whitaker, and many, many others, all of whom taught him something. At the age of 77 he went thru three (2 Al., 1 La.) State Opens in three years without losing a game. Bob said there is no substitute for the experience one obtains in contact with the best in a class.

Uncle Bob also played in the Florida State Championship of 1926. They had a strong field including John Winter and E. Michaelson of Chicago, and he tied with John Winter for the first prize, with Michaelson third. Stoner was then the current Florida champion, and it was left to Bob to take him on in the last round. With the white pieces Bob obtained an advantage thru combinative means and was about to win an additional piece when on his 39th move Stoner touched his Knight to check, saw his mistake, and turned down his king with the remark: "I don't have to make blunders to lose to you. I resign."

In 1962 the Southern, held in Memphis that year was dedicated to Uncle Bob for his dedication to Southern chess. It was also the year that the USCF finally granted Mr. Scrivener the long deserved honor of Master Emeritus status. However, due to an error it was never published in Chess Life. During the 1967 Southern, held in Birmingham, Alabama Uncle Bob had a most embarrassing experience. It was later published in a Memphis news account by Uncle Bob himself. "I went to sleep during my match" Uncle Bob said, " My opponent let me sleep till my clock ran out and then advised me that I had lost on time." So among the many honors Uncle Bob had won in chess, he also held what might be a unique distinction. Maybe he was the only player who lost an important match because he went to sleep during a game! I guess at 85, it was understandable that he might go to sleep while waiting for a slowpoke to make a move.

Scrivener moved to Nesbict, Mississippi about the year 1959. In 1961, at the age of 80, Uncle Bob won the Mississippi Open Championship. He was acclaimed the oldest State Champion in the United States. He died 11 March 1969 at Memphis, Tennessee at the age of 87. Although he lived the last ten years just across the border in Mississippi, he was an honorary member of the Tennessee Chess Association.

Open Section - Alabama State Championship - Montgomery, Sept. 3-5, 1998											
#	Player	prev	perf	post	1	2	3	4	5	6	tot
1	Bill Melvin	2240	2457	2280	W20	W15	W03	W05	D02	W07	5.5
2	Stephen Muhammad	2354	2378	2361	W16	W27	D06	W13	D01	W05	5.0
3	Talaibek Osmonbekov	2128	2286	2161	W28	W04	L01	W11	W18	W08	5.0
4	Andrew Whatley	2284	2111	2261	W14	L03	L07	W25	W20	W15	4.0
5	Mark Schulingkamp	2213	2153	2211	W21	W12	W18	L01	W07	L02	4.0
6	Andy Reeder	2152	2161	2158	W17	W31	D02	L07	D13	W14	4.0
7	Adam Caveney	2195	2149	2191	D22	W25	W04	W06	L05	L01	3.5
8	Joseph Jurjevich	2148	1996	2124	W23	L18	D14	W17	W09	L03	3.5
9	Ulric E. Aeria	2096	1917	2060	L12	W32	W21	D15	L08	W18	3.5
10	Robert Pruitt	2021	1936	2000	D25	D22	D12	D14	D15	W19	3.5
11	Mark Liatti	1980	1904	1962	L18	W23	W26	L03	W16	D12	3.5
12	James Richardson	1737	2045	1803	W09	L05	D10	D16	W30	D11	3.5
13	Brent Inman	2148	2084	2146	W24	W30	Hbye	L02	D06	F	3.0
14	Ray Downs	1969	2060	1990	L04	W28	D08	D10	W27	L06	3.0
15	Tim Bond	1947	1990	1957	W29	L01	W31	D09	D10	L04	3.0
16	Rhodes Peele	1917	1857	1899	L02	D24	W30	D12	L11	W29	3.0
17	Caesar Lawrence	1846	2030	1882	L06	W19	Hbye	L08	D21	W27	3.0
18	Partick Alford	1697	2093	1773	W11	W08	L05	W27	L03	L09	3.0
19	Chris Bond	1960	1704	1910	L31	L17	W32	Hbye	W25	L10	2.5
20	Tom Lawry	1905	1889	1896	L01	L26	W28	W23	L04	D21	2.5
21	Alan Todd	1899	1835	1882	L05	W29	L09	D26	D17	D20	2.5
22	John Morcos	1876	1833	1866	D07	D10	L27	D31	D26	Hbye	2.5
23	Kenneth Sloan	1840	1773	1822	L08	L11	W29	L20	W31	D26	2.5
24	Xavier Martine	1791	1727	1772	L13	D16	L25	L30	W32	W31	2.5
25	Raymond Quillian	1726	1916	1758	D10	L07	W24	L04	L19	W30	2.5
26	Jack Gwin	1700	1850	1735	L27	W20	L11	D21	D22	D23	2.5
27	Lester Bedell	1993	1774	1938	W26	L02	W22	L18	L14	L17	2.0
28	Ross Smith	1764	1624	1733	L03	L14	L20	W32	L29	bye	2.0
29	Valerie Hodgson	1644	1633	1641	L15	L21	L23	bye	W28	L16	2.0

30	W V Higginbotham	1638	1624	1630	bye	L13	L16	W24	L12	L25	2.5
31	Gerald Wheeler	1654	1728	1665	W19	L06	L15	D22	L23	L24	1.5
32	James Bowen	1672	1503	1641	Hbye	L09	L19	L28	L24	F	0.5

Reserve Section - Alabama State Championship - Montgomery, Sept.3-5, 1998

#	Player	pre	per	pst	1	2	3	4	5	6	tot
1	Thomas Elmes	1498	1666	1536	W14	W12	L04	W13	W05	W09	5.0
2	Josh Wakefield	1445	1639	1490	L21	W19	W12	W11	W13	W04	5.0
3	Charles Hays	1417	1532	1443	D22	W21	L13	W14	W08	W05	4.5
4	Lamar Causey	1548	1563	1549	W24	W08	W01	L05	W06	L02	4.0
5	John Caldwell	1518	1556	1525	W09	W23	W06	W04	L01	L03	4.0
6	Frank Meyrath	1369	1511	1404	W18	W11	L05	W07	L04	W13	4.0
7	Nathan. Hutchinson	1292	1451	1331	L11	W18	W15	L06	W16	W12	4.0
8	Moham'd Abdel-Ghany	1400	1447	1412	W16	L04	D10	W22	L03	W15	3.5
9	Brian Brown	1319	1480	1358	L05	W20	D14	W10	W11	L01	3.5
10	John O'Connor	1531	1299	1476	L13	W22	D08	L09	W21	D14	3.0
11	David Sloan	1492	1250	1442	W07	L06	bye	L02	L09	W19	3.0
12	Don Yessick	1375	1284	1353	W17	L01	L02	W20	W19	L07	3.0
13	Keith Artman	1337	1448	1366	W10	W15	W03	L01	L02	L06	3.0
14	Brian McCormick	1298	1324	1304	L01	W17	D09	L03	W18	D10	3.0
15	David Clark	1429	1202	1373	W19	L13	L07	D16	W22	L08	2.5
16	Jim Griffin	1167	1235	1180	L08	W24	Hbye	D15	L07	D17	2.5
17	Chris Newbolt	1103	1193	1125	L12	L14	L19	W24	W20	D16	2.5
18	Joshua Carter	1078	1120	1086	L06	L07	bye	D21	L14	W22	2.5
19	Nick Elmes	1227	1129	1207	L15	L02	W17	bye	L12	L11	2.0
20	Danny Simmons	1138	1066	1124	L23	L09	W24	L12	L17	bye	2.0
21	Scott Bitterman	1254	1268	1256	W02	L03	F	D18	L10	F	1.5
22	Riley Lane	1187	1051	1157	D03	L10	bye	L08	L15	L18	1.5
23	Ken Wright	1385	1328	1380	W20	L05	F	F	F	F	1.0
24	Fred Wood	1349	0839	1267	L04	L16	L20	L17	F	F	0.0

'98 Space City Open Standings - Madison, AL. - 3/14-15 *(from ACF Webpage)*							
Place	**Name**	**Rtg**	**Tot**	**Place**	**Name**	**Rtg**	**Tot**
Open Section				*K - 12 Scholastic*			
1 - 2	Andy Reeder	2161	*4.0*	1	Joshua Cowart	1033	*4.0*
	Gerald Larson	2033	*4.0*	2	Ross Hodges		*3.0*
3 - 4	Andrew Whatley	2285	*3.5*	3 - 6	Jaclyn Webb	918	*2.0*
	John Daugherty	1882	*3.5*		Joshua Screws		*2.0*
5 - 7	Bill Melvin	2237	*3.0*		Norman Dean IV		*2.0*
	Roger McIntyre	1681	*3.0*		Heath Cadriel		*2.0*
	Patrick Alford	1723	*3.0*	7	Jonothan Senn		*1.0*
8 - 9	James Richardson	1704	*2.5*	*K - 6 Scholastic*			
	Chris Lasky	1646	*2.5*	1	Ethan Balch	1041	*3.5*
10-12	Wayne Hedger	1470	*2.0*	2 - 3	Mason Williams	936	*3.0*
	Tim Bond	1920	*2.0*		Joseph Chaffee	1006	*3.0*
	James Bowen	1659	*2.0*	4 - 6	Ben Jedlovec	712	*2.5*
13	Sherman Ashmore	1218	*1.5*		Alex Boroff		*2.5*
14-15	Ralph Holloway	1661	*1.0*		Kevin Pelton	489	*2.5*
	Lee Alison	1655	*1.0*	7	Robert Matroni		*2.0*
Amateur Section				8	A. Antonison	696	*1.0*
1	W. Higginbotham	1540	*4.5*	9-11	Andrew Kirchner	705	*1.0*
2	Charles Ashmore	1511	*4.0*		Tomasa Hughes		*1.0*
3	Jafar Daskar	1515	*3.5*		R. Mortazavi		*1.0*
4 - 7	John O'Connor	1534	*3.0*	12	Brennan Schmid		*0.5*
	William Coleman	1460	*3.0*	*K - 3 Scholastic*			
	James Brown	1332	*3.0*	1	C. Mortazavi		*3.5*
	Riley Lane	1224	*3.0*	2 - 3	Miles Melvin	777	*3.0*
8 - 9	Benjamin Tacker	1282	*2.5*		Phillip Causey	972	*3.0*
	Keith Artman	1034	*2.5*	4	P. Jedlovec	437	*2.5*
10-13	Lamar Causey	1507	*2.0*	5 - 7	Taylor Helsper		*2.0*
	Timothy Staley	1040	*2.0*		Izak Baranowski		*2.0*
	Lawrence Boroff	1034	*2.0*		Lucas Williams	452	*2.0*
	Donald Yessick	1318	*2.0*	8 - 9	Patrick Goss		*1.0*
14	William Ross	1020	*1.5*		Chris Shumate		*1.0*
15	Thad Baranowski		*1.0*	10	David Kennedy		*0.0*

Scholastic Section

Chess Parents

So That's a Smothered Mate *by Nick Elmes*

"Pairings are up." The familiar call echoes around the room. I eagerly make my way to the pairings list, thinking of how I had won my first two games and a win at this point would make me feel extremely satisfied. I know the importance I place in getting to my board first and choosing my seat. I certainly don't want to look out the window, as was the case in my last game. As the players crowd the pairings, I lean my 6' 3" body over the top of the smaller people in front of me to get a glimpse. Ah, there we are:

BOARD 4: NICK ELMES THOMAS ELMES

My heart sinks. I have a feeling like I've just been hit by a bus. I confirm the pairing and regain my composure before heading toward my 15 year old son on board 4. Upon reaching the table, I find Thomas has already grabbed the best seat, and as I stare at the brightness behind him, I inquire, "Would you like to switch seats?"

"No, sir", came the answer. He knows I'm aggravated, and when I glance down, I see his chess set ready for action. His pieces have been in battle plenty of times before and the Blitz and Bughouse have taken their toll. Many an evening have I spent with superglue, restoring them, not only by setting the weights in the bottom, but also by putting broken parts together. Perhaps, I think, I can win a minor battle.

"How about using my board and pieces?" I ask.

"No, these are fine," came the reply.

Okay, two down. Might as well strike out. "How about using my clock?"

"I don't think so," he answers as he fills out his scoresheet as I am trying to engage in some kind of advantage.

"What's your rating?" he asks.

"**74".

"What?"

"**74".

"I can't hear you."

"1274," I say in a loud voice and I feel everyone in the room is looking at me as in the E.F. Hutton commercial. At this point, I feel a broken man and only a friendly handshake and the words, "Good luck" make me feel that perhaps this is my time to win.

The clock is started and I immediately go into my Vienna Opening. Any thought that he would be confused was nonsense as we had played a hundred times before and he had helped me with it. However, I was determined to stay to my plan. I would develop all my pieces, castle, and make sure my rooks were joined. Everything seems to be going well and I am

ahead on time. I have actually got him thinking. He pushes a pawn and I ignore it. I move my pawn directly ahead. This was obviously not what he wanted and I noticed he was starting to chew on his pen. This was a good sign. He had done this against Whatley, and Inman, and almost everyone else he had lost to. Could this be my turn? Six moves later and I make what I consider a brilliant move. I look up only to discover that I'm sitting by myself. Glancing around the room, I notice he is watching A.J. Goldsby playing Brent Inman. He is obviously searching for some inspiration. I wait patiently, going over the moves in my head and wondering how he would respond to my brilliance. I watch his clock ticking away and I notice he has wandered from table to table, checking out each game as he goes by. He eventually arrives back at board 4 and I can't tell what he is thinking. I want to point out my move, but before I can get eye contact, he is writing it down. He leans over and brings his bishop into play.

"Check," he says in almost a whisper so as not to embarrass me. This was a move I had not even considered and it took me totally by surprise. Surely he knows it's not covered and it can be taken. Maybe it's a sacrifice, I think. My heart is starting to pump very fast at this point and I realize that after walking around as a spectator, he has obviously lost his concentration. My mind wanders as I thought of last weekend when he locked the keys in the car, or how he could never remember to take out the garbage. I immediately take full advantage of his blunder. Rook takes Bishop! Standing up and stretching, I want everyone in the room to know. However, everyone else seems preoccupied, so I make my way to the rest room, hoping someone will ask me how it is going. I see Jack Mallory in the hall and make a bee line towards him.

"Thomas has just dropped a Bishop. I think I have him."

Mr. Mallory grins and replies, "Are you sure it's not a sacrifice?" This sends a chill through my whole body, as I continue upon my way.

Arriving back at the table I'm pleased to see Thomas deep in thought. He is sitting on one leg and the pen has almost been eaten. I start to feel a twinge of guilt. Should I be trying to beat my own son so badly? My mind goes back to all the people who have helped him: Brent Inman, Jack Mallory, Danny Miller, and many others. I remember all the good times we have had playing the game and the great people we have met. I come out of my daydream to see Thomas still studying the position. I'm on the verge of my first tournament win against him as I glance towards the clock. To my horror I see my time slipping away and with disgust I slam my hand across the top of it, to put his side in motion. He immediately responds and from a beaten kid, he is transformed into Kasparov.

"Check," as he moves his Knight deep into my territory. I'm totally shaken by this, and I think perhaps I should trade down to a pawn ending. We both have five pawns; however, my triple pawns are not good and the double pawns on the H file are no help. I wonder how he was able to keep his pawns on different files. I move deliberately out of check. I notice he marks his score sheet 0 - 1 and flips it over. I'm offended by this and I'm about to make a remark when his other Knight comes from nowhere. "Check." I still don't see that it is all over. His Queen and Rooks are not in position for a mate. I move to the only square possible and he reaches over with his Knight and declares, "MATE." I'm still staring at the board when his hand is thrust into mine and he says, "Good game."

Upon leaving the room, he turns to me and asks, "Want to get some lunch?" Still in a daze, I ask, "You paying?" and with the grin on his face, I know I have lost again.

Editor's note: Thomas Elmes has a rating of 1500 and has been the top scholastic player in the Mobile & Baldwin County Chess League for the past 2 years.

How to Read and Write Chess, Part 2

The last issue of Alabama Chess Antics *explained (on pages 13 - 14) how* **algebraic chess notation** *works. Here's an explanation of the second most common system of chess notation - the so-called* **descriptive notation.** *Many of the chess books in your public library will probably use this 'descriptive' notation, because it was very popular in English-speaking countries until about 20 years ago.*

This article can be understood without reference to the one on 'algebraic' notation. - R.P.

The *descriptive* system of chess notation has two sets of square names - one for White's moves and one for Black's. Here are the square names for White's moves:

QR8	QN8	QB8	Q8	K8	KB8	KN8	KR8	8
QR7	QN7	QB7	Q7	K7	KB7	KN7	KR7	7
QR6	QN6	QB6	Q6	K6	KB6	KN6	KR6	6
QR5	QN5	QB5	Q5	K5	KB5	KN5	KR5	5
QR4	QN4	QB4	Q4	K4	KB4	KN4	KR4	4
QR3	QN3	QB3	Q3	K3	**KB3**	KN3	KR3	3
QR2	QN2	QB2	Q2	K2	KB2	KN2	KR2	2
QR1	QN1	QB1	Q1	K1	KB1	KN1	KR1	1

WHITE

Look at the square in **boldface** in the diagram. It is called KB3 (read "King's Bishop's three") because the letter name of the **file** (i.e., column or vertical line of squares) is KB since the King's Bishop is in this file when the game begins; and the number of the **rank** (i.e., row or horizontal line of squares) is 3 if we count the ranks from **White's** point-of view. If you begin a game by moving your King's Knight to the square we just named, you would notate it like this: **1. N - KB3.** The "1." is the move number (first move of the game); the "N" is the phonetic letter name of the moving piece (N for "Knight"; older books used Kt a lot, but we don't use K for Knight since we need this letter for "King"); a dash comes next to keep the whole thing from looking too cluttered, and finally, "KB3", the name of the **arrival square** of the moving piece.

To notate moves by Black, we just look at the board from her or his point of view. Everything else works the same:

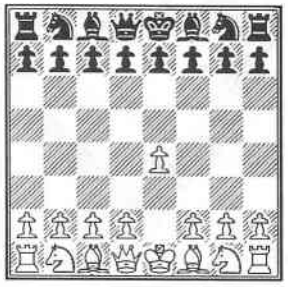
BLACK

1	QR1	QN1	QB1	Q1	K1	KB1	KN1	KR1
2	QR2	QN2	QB2	Q2	K2	KB2	KN2	KR2
3	QR3	QN3	QB3	Q3	K3	KB3	KN3	KR3
4	QR4	QN3	QB4	**Q4**	K4	KB4	KN4	KR4
5	QR5	QN5	QB5	Q5	K5	KB5	KN5	KR5
6	QR6	QN6	QB6	Q6	K6	KB6	KN6	KR6
7	QR7	QN7	QB7	Q7	K7	KB7	KN7	KR7
8	QR8	QN8	QB8	Q8	K8	KB8	KN8	KR8

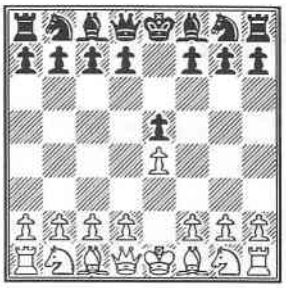
For instance, if your opponent replies to your move **1. N-KB3** by moving a pawn to the square in boldface in this second diagram, it would be notated as **1. ... P - Q4.** (The ellipsis " ... " is used when a Black move is listed separately.)

We denote kingside castling by **O - O** and queenside castling by **O - O - O**, just as in algebraic notation.

The next page has a complete game for you to play through to gain practice in using descriptive notation.



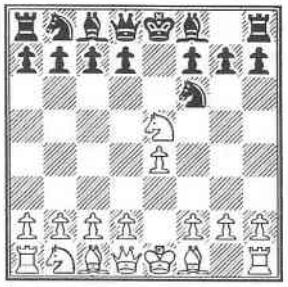
1. P - K4



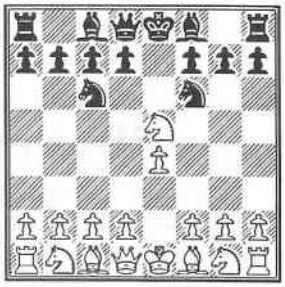
1. ... P - K4

2. N - KB3

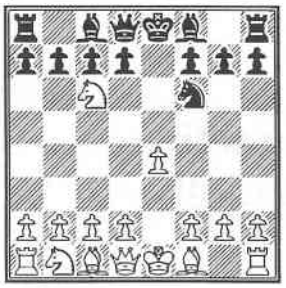
2. ... N - KB3



3. N x P (a)



3. ... N - B3 (b)



4. N x N

4. ... QP x N (c)

5. P - Q3

5. ... B - QB4 (d)

6. B - N5? (e)

6. ... N x P ! (f)

7. B x Q

7. ... B x P ch

8. K - K2

8. ... B - N5 mate

(a) The symbol "x" stands for "capture".

(b) Since only one Black Knight can move to a B3 square, there is no need to write QB3.

(c) 4. ... P x N would not adequately describe this move since the Queen Knight Pawn could also capture the Knight.

(d) Since 3. ... B - KB4 is a legal (although poor) move, we cannot write just 3. ... B - B4 for 3. ... B - QB4.

(e) The "?" means that the move is poor.

(f) The "!" means that the move is good. Black calculates that he has a mate if White plays 7. B x Q. If White plays 7. P x N instead, Black can win White's Queen. Do you see how?

27th Annual Queen of Hearts Chess Tournament

February 20 - 21, 1999, University Center Student Activities Room, Auburn University **at Montgomery** (AUM), Montgomery AL

Prizes*

Open Section
(open to all)

1st	$300
2nd	$125
Top Expert	$100
Second Expert	$50
Top A	$100
2nd A	$50
Top < 1800	$100
2nd < 1800	$50

Reserve Section
(under 1600)

1st	$150
2nd	$75
Top D	$75
Top E	$75
Top Below 1000	$50
Top unrated	$50

* based on 45 entries for both sections combined. There must be at least three players in a class for the "second prize" for that class to be awarded.

Entry fees

Entry fee: $35 if mailed by Feb. 14 to Rhodes Peele
(make check payable to Montgomery Chess Club - write USCF number on check and state desired section); **$40** at site, 8:15 to 9:00 A.M. Saturday.

Time control, etc.

Time control (both sections) **:** 35 moves in 90 minutes; then sudden death in 30 minutes.
Round times: Saturday, 9:30, 2:30, 7:30; Sunday, 9:30, 2:30
Sponsors: Montgomery Chess Club and AUM Academic Competition ("College Bowl") Team.

A "Heart of Dixie Tour" Event

Play chess anytime, anyplace ...

First Sundays in Birmingham ....

First Sunday Quads

When: The First Sunday of **(almost)** every month (please check the ACF Calendar)
Where: Hill University Center on the UAB campus (corner of University Ave and 14th Street South)
What: Low-cost USCF rated Quads, G/45. **Entry fee: $2.00.** Some sections may be Hex, or G/30
Times: **Registration,** 1:00-1:30; **Rounds,** 1:45, 3:15, 4:45
Prizes: Clear winner in each section receives free entry to the next event.
Contact: Ken Sloan

Last Saturdays in Fort Benning ...

KELLY HILL REC CENTER TOURNAMENTS

When: The **last Saturday** of each month. Tournament **starts** at 12:00 noon, **Eastern** tiime.
Where: Building 9079, Fort Benning, Georgia.
What: Three-round Swiss system tournament, USCF rated, G/90, entry fee $4.
Contact: For more info call Maj. Lawrence after 12 noon on Monday, Thursday or Friday; or Lamar Causey after 6:00 PM

Sponsor: Phoenix City Chess Club. Web page: http://members.aol.com/Lam33/index.html

First Saturdays in Montgomery ...

MONTGOMERY QUADS/HEXADS

What: USCF Quickrated quads and/or hexads. For adult and scholastic players. 3 or 4 games. Time control: G/29. Players determine format.
When: Thr **first Saturday** of (almost) every month. Check the ACF calendar ...
1999 schedule: Jan 2nd, Mar 6th, Apr 3rd, May 1st. Registration: 11:00 - 11:30; rounds: 12 noon; 1:30; 3:00. Rounds may be played ASAP.
Where: Comfort Suites Hotel off of Eastern Boulevard, 5924 Monticello Drive. We are usually in the Cafe. Please ask at the information desk.
Contact: Caesar Lawrence

A "Heart of Dixie Tour" Event

MILLBROOK SCHOLASTIC

DETAILS: 5 Round Swiss * USCF QC RATED

SECTIONS: 4=> HS, Jr. HIGH, ELEMENTARY & PRIMARY

Grades: 10th - 12th 7th - 9th 4th - 6th & K - 3rd

WHEN: Saturday, JAN 16, 1999

ENTRY FEE: $15 per player, if rcvd by 11 JAN '99
$22 per player at the site; No Exceptions

TIME CONTROL: Game in 29 minutes (G/29)

WHERE: CHAPMAN ACADEMY
4711 CHAPMAN ROAD * MILLBROOK, AL

DIRECTIONS: From I-65 take exit 181 (Hwy 14 East). Proceed 2 miles to traffic light. Turn right at light onto Brown Road. Stay on Brown until stop sign at Main St. Go right for 1 block. Go left and turn onto Chapman Road. The school is the next to last bldg on the left before the stop sign.

ROUNDS: 10, 11:15, 1:00, 2:15 & 3:30. Awards at 4:50 PM.

PRIZES: Trophy to Top 4 players in each Section.
Plus Door Prizes: Chess Magazines a/o Books!

CONCESSION: Lunch, Snacks and Drinks provided by Chapman PTA.

MEMBERSHIP: All participants must be USCF ($12/$17) memb ers.

REGISTRATION: For late entries, 8:30 til 9:15 at the site.
For early registration, send entry form and fees to:
Caesar Lawrence

Make checks payable to: Caesar Lawrence

QUESTIONS: Caesar or John Chapman

---------- cut here and mail with payment ----------

Player Name: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____ Birthdate: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

USCF ID#: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Rating: _____

Entry Fee: _____ + USCF Membership Fee: _____ = TOTAL $ _____

Hoover Scholastic Chess Tournament

30 January 1999

LOCATION: South Shades Crest Elementary School
3770 South Shades Crest Road
Hoover, Alabama 35244

DIRECTIONS: Exit 10 on I-459 (one exit West of the Galleria). Travel West on 150 toward Bessemer. At the first traffic light after the exit, turn left on to South Shades Crest Road. Cross the expressway, go down the hill and turn right into "Willow Lake Estates". An almost immediate left turn heads you into the SSC parking lot.

DATE: 7 February 1997

DETAILS: 5 Round Swiss. USCF Rated. Four sections, by grade:
Open (K-12), Jr High (K-9), Elementary (K-6), Primary (K-3)
Players are strongly encouraged to play in the lowest section for which they are eligible - but may "play up".

TIME CONTROL: Game in 30 minutes

ROUNDS: 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30

REGISTRATION: For early registration, send entry form and fees to: Vasha Rosenblum
South Shades Crest Elementary School

or register on site 8:30-9:30
MANDATORY players' meeting: 10:00.
Make all checks payable to: South Shades Crest

ENTRY FEE: $15 if postmarked by 23 January. $30 on site.

MEMBERSHIP: All participants must be USCF
(scholastic: under 14 $12, else $17; adult $40)
and ACF ($5) members.
Memberships available on site. (other states OK)

PRIZES: Trophies to top 10 in each section.
Trophy to top team in each section (4 highest scores).
Trophy to team with most total points (all sections combined).

TEAMS: This is an individual event, with secondary team prizes. Teams may represent a school or club. Pairings will be "team-blind".

CONCESSIONS: Breakfast, lunch and snacks. Chess Books/Equipment.

QUESTIONS: Vasha Rosenblum

==========Please fill in COMPLETELY==========

Name_____ USCF ID_____ Exp Date_____

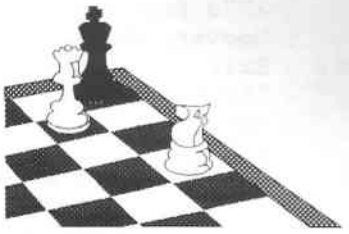
Address_____ Section_____ Grade_____

_____ Date of Birth_____

Team/School/Club_____ Coach_____

Internet Chess Training with Senior Master / Fide Master Stephen Muhammad

- **Game Analysis**
- **1 on 1 play**
- **... and More !**



From the Editor:

I've just finished typesetting the Nov - Jan issue of Antics, and I thought I would use this little bit of dead space to touch base with the ACF membership. My workload this Fall just didn't allow enough time to get this issue out on schedule. Fortunately, to my knowledge, no major tournaments that needed to be promoted with time-value display ads have been affected. Still, I very much regret regret that the issue is late. I plan to have a "timely but skinny" issue for Feb - Apr that will get Antics back on track, and to keep the publication schedule up-to-date for the balance of the year. The good news is that this issue is (I think) very strong on content. The articles are excellent this time, and many authors contributed. I hope this will continue to be true throughout 1999.

Yours,

Rhodes Peele

Heart of Dixie Tour 1997/8 *by Jack Mallory*

Funds

Event	Date	Amount
ACF		$200.00
Magic City Open	Nov. 15	12.00
Magic City Quick	Nov. 15	8.00
Montgomery G/29	Jan.	6.00
Queen of Hearts	Feb. 14/15	25.00
Montgomery G/29	March	6.00
Birmingham	March	7.00
Montgomery G/29	May	6.00
Al. G/10 Ch., B'ham	May 23	10.00
Vulcan Open	May 23/24	32.00
Montgomery G/29	June	3.50
Alabama QC Ch.	July 11	7.00
Greater Alabama Open	Aug. 1/2	8.50
Al. State Champ.	Sept. 5-7	28.00
Total		**$359.00**

Master/Expert

Ulric Aeria (2096)		39.0
Richard Frye (2120)		8.5
A.J. Goldsby (2205)		8.0
Brent Inman (2148)		18.0
Joe Jurjevich (2148)		18.5
Bill Melvin (2240)	**(2nd, $17.92)**	**61.0**
RobertPruitt (2021)	**(3rd, $10.75)**	**49.0**
Andy Reeder (2144)		35.0
Kyle Therrell (2194)		9.0
Andrew Whatley (2288)	**(1st, $35.65)**	**69.0**

Class A

Constantine Ananiadis (1807)		22.5
Lester Bedell (1993)		17.0
Chris Bond (1960)		17.5
Tim Bond (1947)	**(2nd, $17.92)**	**71.5**
Willie Calhoun (1977)		15.0
Ray Downs (1913)	**(3rd, $10.75)**	**64.5**
Ranil Guneratne (1948)		15.5
Caesar Lawrence (1846)	**(1st, $35.85)**	**100.5**
Tim Lawry (1901)		32.0
Mark Liatti (1980)		18.5
John Marcos (1882)		31.5
Rhodes Peele (1917)		49.0
John Perciballi (1871)		7.0
Kirk Petty (1913)		8.0
Jere Roland (1943)		12.5
Kenneth Sloan (1840)		41.0
Alan Todd (1884)		46.0

Class B

Partick Alford (1697)		24.0
James Bowen (1672)	**(3rd, $10.75)**	**50.5**
Louis DeFoire (1855)		7.5
Jack Gwin (1700)	**(2nd, $17.92)**	**58.5**
David Hayes (1741)		15.5
Walt Higginbotham (1638)	**(1st, $28.68)**	**75.0**
Valerie Hodgson (1644)		17.0
Jack Mallory (1790)		7.0
Xavier Martine (1791)		40.5
Scott Miller (1601)		15.0
Richard Pugh (1643)		12.5
Raymond Quillian (1726)		17.5
James Richardson (1737)		47.0
Walter Schaetzle (1700)		7.5
Ross Owen Smith (1764)		24.0
Roy F. Stanton (1680)		7.5
Michael deVivo (1682)		7.0
Gerald A. Wheeler (1654)		36.5

Class C

Mohamed Abdel-Ghany (1400)		32.5
Ralph Holloway (1481)		6.0
John E. Caldwell (1518)	**(3rd, $10.75)**	**48.5**
Lamar Causey (1548)		34.0
David Clark (1429)		17.5
William E. Coleman (1467)		8.5

James C. Dean (1453)		6.5
Richard W. Ellis (1400)	**(1st, $28.68)**	**58.5**
Thomas Elmes (1498)		20.0
Charles Hays (1417)		30.5
Patrick Kee (1589)		13.5
Joseph Marcum (1470)		14.0
Roy Martin (1422)		15.5
John T. O'Connor (1531)		39.0
David Sloan (1492)	**(2nd, $17.92)**	**55.5**
Joe R. Solomon (1512)		8.5
Josh Wakefield (1445)		20.0
Allen G. Woodard (1439)		8.0

Class D

Keith Artman (1337)		26.0
Scott Bitterman (1254)		23.5
Brian Brown (1319)		18.5
James F. Brown (1387)		6.0
Taylor A. Curtis (1370)		15.5
Dale F. Dickens (1285)		7.0
Nick Elmes (1227)		17.0
William Ross Hodges (1265)		13.0
Nathaniel Hutchinson (1292)		26.0
Brian McCormick (1298)		18.0
Christopher L. Oliver (1311)		10.0
Robert M. Rieves (1255)	**(2nd, $17.50)**	**41.0**
Adrian Varon (1289)		7.0
Fred E. Wood (1349)	**(3rd, $10.75)**	**34.5**
Ken Wright (1385)		16.0
Donald E. Yessick (1375)	**(1st, $28.68)**	**62.5**

Class E / Unrated

ELton Blackwell (1100)		6.0
Joshua Carter (1078)	**(3rd, $10.75)**	**25.0**
Phillip L. Causey (884)		6.0
Andrew Chandler (837)		7.0
Nathanael Chandler (912)		7.0
Warner Chandler (1053)		8.0
Ari Friedman (1187)		14.5
Michael Friedman (845)		11.5
Jim O'Neal Griffin (1167)	**(1st, $28.68)**	**30.0**
Andy Grundhoefer (704)		10.5
Tariq Hashim (981)		5.5
Charles D. Hayes (UNR)		15.5
Matt Johnson (916)		12.0
Charles Johnston (UNR)		5.0
Kendra King (1104)		13.5
Ken Kirby (1186)		7.5
Riley E. Lane (1187)	**(2nd, $17.92)**	**27.5**
Deandre McCall (605)		5.0
Christopher Newbolt (1103)		24.5
Philip Norton (1014)		17.0
Andrew J. Rozsa (892)		7.0
Joshua Screws (865)		6.0
Danny Simmons (1138)		17.0
Trent Sims (1140)		9.5
Johnathan Spanos (UNR)		6.0
Jason W. Vest (1115)		7.0
Greg Wilder (934)		18.0
Josh S. Wood (982)		7.0
Derek S. Woodham (1030)		13.5
Brennan G. Young (1096)		15.0
Thomas H. Young (1047)		7.0

Back 2 School Blues Scholastic

Results by Dale Robbins

The 1998-1999 scholastic chess season got underway in Birmingham on Saturday, August 22 at the Back-2-School Blues tournament. The tournament is hosted each year by Springville Road Library. Forty-seven young competitors treated their blues by participating in this years installment of the annual tournament.

A minor computer glitch gave the TD's some concern for a while. As we were prepared to direct with pairing cards, the computer decided it wasn't worth the effort to cause us further concern. Whew! Other than that, the tournament ran pretty well. Looking around, all I saw was enthusiastic parents and young happy faces. Therefore, I declare the day a success!

Ken Sloan, who was suffering from Hawaii withdrawal symptoms, was the floor TD. I'm sure all Alabama Chess enthusiasts join me in appreciating the hardships Ken must have endured while attending the US Open and USCF delegates meeting on our behalf in Hawaii. What a trooper!

The Primary Section was very competitive with the three place trophies being decided on tie-breaks. Ovik Bannerjeg (Hoover) placed 3rd. Montgomery Brown (Birmingham) placed second. Newcomer, James Cassidy Ellis (Pinson) came is First Place.

Brennan Young (Hoover) dominated the Elementary Section with a perfect 5.0 score. Mason Williams (Hoover) and Nathan Hall(Birmingham) had 4.0 points each. Mason (2nd Place) edged out Nathan (3rd Place) on tie-breaks.

Ari Friedman (Mountain Brook) squeezed into 3rd Place on tie-breaks. Second Place was secured by David Sloan (Mountain Brook). Jordan Jones (Hoover) took 1st Place honors. *(crosstables next page)*

Back 2 School Blues Scholastic
22 August 1997

K-12

Player		Prev	Perf	Post	R01	R02	R03	R04	R05	Score
1	Jordan Jones	1292	1421	1321	W13	W05	W08	W07	D03	4.5
2	David Sloan	1492	1263	1473	W09	L07	W14	W06	W08	4.0
3	William Ross Hodges	1265	1171	1240	W17	W16	L07	W09	D01	3.5
4	Ari Friedman	1161	1220	1172	L08	W06	D10	W12	W07	3.5
5	Joshua A Cowart	1086	1114	1092	W14	L01	W16	L08	W10	3.0
6	Al Tanju	1022	1053	1027	W15	L04	W17	L02	W14	3.0
7	Jason Young	0995	1264	1043	W11	W02	W03	L01	L04	3.0
8	Nathan E Cross	UNR	1308	1308	W04	W12	L01	W05	L02	3.0
9	Michael Dupre	0936	1067	0953	L02	W11	W12	L03	D15	2.5
10	Jeshua D Screws	0865	0998	0890	L12	W15	D04	W13	L05	2.5
11	Wesley Mewbourne	UNR	0734	0734	L07	L09	D15	B	W17	2.5
12	Ethan A Balch	1108	0868	1069	W10	L08	L09	L04	B	2.0
13	David Hall	0875	0766	0854	L01	L14	B	L10	W16	2.0
14	Norman R Dean	0854	0986	0870	L05	W13	L02	W16	L06	2.0
15	Evan D Schoenberg	UNR	0762	0762	L06	L10	D11	W17	D09	2.0
16	Jack Gerrity	0853	0614	0812	B	L03	L05	L14	L13	1.0
17	Jonathan A Senn	0604	0569	0595	L03	B	L06	L15	L11	1.0

K-6

Player		Prev	Perf	Post	R01	R02	R03	R04	R05	Score
1	Brennan G Young	1096	1319	1139	W12	W07	W02	W04	W05	5.0
2	Mason Williams	0940	1080	0974	W14	W10	L01	W03	W06	4.0
3	Nathan Hall	0933	0997	0956	W13	W17	W11	L02	W04	4.0
4	Joseph R Chaffee	1029	0988	1023	W08	W06	W05	L01	L03	3.0
5	Lewis lehe	0981	0995	0984	W09	W11	L04	W07	L01	3.0
6	Sturgeon Christie	0903	0857	0899	W16	L04	W09	W12	L02	3.0
7	Sophie Cooper	0836	0881	0848	W18	L01	W15	L05	W10	3.0
8	Kevin Pelton	0625	0687	0634	L04	W16	L12	W17	W14	3.0
9	Kati L Chapman	0613	0845	0702	L05	W18	L06	W15	W12	3.0
10	Michael Friedman	0845	0651	0822	W20	L02	D17	W11	L07	2.5
11	Greg Espenan	0914	0676	0874	W15	L05	L03	L10	W17	2.0
12	Sarah Boyd	0811	0669	0784	L01	W14	W08	L06	L09	2.0
13	Lucas C Williams	0529	0481	0518	L03	L15	W20	L14	W21	2.0
14	Mary E Givens	0421	0588	0445	L02	L12	W18	W13	L08	2.0
15	Lanny Sun	UNR	0651	0651	L11	W13	L07	L09	W20	2.0
16	Peter Sloan	0405	0375	0394	L06	L08	L19	W20	D18	1.5
17	Evan J Stalker	0245	0529	0371	B	L03	D10	L08	L11	1.5
18	John Eric Capps	UNR	0433	0433	L07	L09	L14	W22	D16	1.5
19	Kara Marie Young	0522	0805	0532	F	F	W16	F	F	1.0
20	Brennan C Schmid	0188	0203	0193	L10	B	L13	L16	L15	1.0
21	Jenny Young	0703	0130	0607	F	F	F	F	L13	0.0
22	Ja cob McClinton	UNR	0096	0096	F	F	F	L18	F	0.0

K-3

Player		Prev	Perf	Post	R01	R02	R03	R04	R05	Score
1	Ovik Banerjee	1015	0961	0988	W08	L02	W09	W05	W03	4.0
2	Montomery Brown	0633	1010	0705	W07	W01	L03	W04	W08	4.0
3	James Cassidy Ellis	UNR	0973	0973	W04	W05	W02	W09	L01	4.0
4	Will Battle	0745	0676	0734	L03	W11	W10	L02	W07	3.0
5	Libby Musgrave	0669	0781	0700	W11	L03	W06	L01	W09	3.0
6	Jenny Young	0703	0404	0570	W10	L09	L05	D08	B	2.5
7	Michael Appleby	UNR	0620	0620	L02	D08	W11	W10	L04	2.5
8	Kara Marie Young	0522	0503	0515	L01	D07	B	D06	L02	2.0
9	Celia Cooper	0409	0640	0486	B	W06	L01	L03	L05	2.0
10	Elizabeth W Hall	0415	0269	0390	L06	B	L04	L07	D11	1.5
11	Jacob McClinton	UNR	0340	0340	L05	L04	L07	B	D10	1.5

1998/9 "Heart of Dixie" Chess Tour *by Bill Melvin*

The Alabama **"Heart of Dixie"** Chess Tour is a year-long contest to help promote Alabama chess participation and competition. The 1998-99 Alabama "Heart of Dixie" tour will span from September 8, 1998 through the 1999 Alabama State Championship. For a tournament to qualify as an Alabama "Heart of Dixie" Tour event, it must meet the following requirements:

- It must be **USCF rated.**
- It must be an **open weekend tournament in Alabama (or within 10 miles of the ACF Affiliate's location) of at least three rounds** in length.
- It must be **advertised on the ACF WWW Calendar** as an Alabama "Heart of Dixie" tour event at least one month in advance. Multiple events may be scheduled for the same weekend.
- A copy of the final **wall chart** and appropriate Dixie Tour **fees** must be **submitted** to the ACF Secretary / Treasurer within two weeks of the end of the tournament.

Prize Fund

The prize fund will be formed from tournament fees of 50 cents per paticipant and other donations. The ACF is donating $100.00 to the prize fund for the "Heart of Dixie" Tour's third year. Prizes will be awarded to top players of each class by the following percentages of the prize fund:

Master/Expert:	1st, 10%; 2nd, 5%; 3rd, 3%
Class A:	1st, 10%; 2nd, 5%; 3rd, 3%
Class B:	1st, 8%; 2nd, 5%; 3rd, 3%
Class C:	1st, 8%; 2nd, 5%; 3rd, 3%
Class D:	1st, 8%; 2nd, 5%; 3rd, 3%
Class E/Unrated	1st, 8%; 2nd, 5%; 3rd, 3%

Conditions of Awarding Prizes

- The final class standing of a player will be determined by the August 1999 USCF rating supplement.
- Players must be ACF members to accumulate Heart of Dixie points.

Earning Heart of Dixie Points

ACF members may earn Heart of Dixie points as follows:

Each player participating in an Alabama USCF Grand Prix Dixie Tour event will earn 10 "Heart of Dixie" points. Players participating in the Alabama State Championship will earn 15 "Heart of Dixie" points. Players participating in all other "Heart of Dixie" Tour events will earn 5 "Heart of Dixie" points.

Players will be awarded additional Heart of Dixie points for their performance result in any "Heart of Dixie" Tour event. The performance award consists of the tournament score. For example, suppose Robert J. Kasparov scores 3.5 out of five at the Paint Rock Open. He scores 10 points for playing and 3.5 points for his result for a total of 13.5 points.

ACF Calendar *maintained by Dr. Ken Sloan*

This table of chess events is mostly taken from the webpage http://www.cis.uab.edu/info/faculty/sloan/ACF. Look it over and ***mark your calendar*** *with all events that you* ***might*** *want to play in! Organizers, please call or E-mail Dr. Sloan so that your tournament(s) can be listed. On very rare occasions, tournaments have to be cancelled or rescheduled after they have been announced in the Antics. For this reason, it is sometimes a good idea to communicate with theorganizer or contact person before driving to an out-of-town event.*

Event	Date and City More information on	Contact Person	Phone and/or E-mail address
Kelly Hill Rec Center Tmt.	December 26, Fort Benning, Georgia; page 23	see page 23	
Montgomery Quads/Hexads *A Heart-of Dixie Tour Event*	January 2, Montgomery, page 23	Caesar Lawrence	
First Sunday Quads	January 3 CANCELLED (UAB closed)		
Submission Deadline for next *Alabama Chess Antics*	January 10	Rhodes Peele	
Millbrook Scholastic	January 16; Montgomery; page 24	Caesar Lawrence; John Chapman,	
Kelly Hill Rec Center Tmt.	January 30, Fort Benning, Georgia; page 23	see page 23	
Hoover Scholastic	January 30, Hoover	Vasha Rosenblum	
Montgomery Quads/Hexads	February 6 CANCELLED		
First Sunday Quads	February 7, Birmingham, page 23	Kenneth Sloan	
Queen of Hearts *A Heart-of Dixie Tour Event*	February 20 - 21, Montgomery, page 23	Rhodes Peele	
Kelly Hill Rec Center Tmt.	February 27, Fort Benning, Georgia; page 22	see page 23	
Montgomery Quads/Hexads *A Heart-of Dixie Tour Event*	March 6, Montgomery, page 23	Caesar Lawrence	
First Sunday Quads	March 7, Birmingham, page 23	Kenneth Sloan	
Scholastic Individual	March 13; Huntsville	Bill Melvin	
Kelly Hill Rec Center Tmt.	March 28, Fort Benning, Georgia; page 23	see page 23	
Montgomery Quads/Hexads *A Heart-of Dixie Tour Event*	April 3, Montgomery, page 23	Caesar Lawrence	
First Sunday Quads	April 4, Birmingham, page 23	Kenneth Sloan	
Alabama State Scholastic Team	April 17, Hoover	Vasha Rosemblum	

The **Alabama Chess Federation** (ACF) is the United States Chess Federation (USCF) affiliate for the state of Alabama. Membership is open to any interested individual or organization by paying the annual membership dues. Please support Alabama chess by **joining** or **renewing** your annual membership in ACF. Benefits of membership include a subscription to the quarterly publication *Alabama Chess Antics.*

ACF Membership Application

☐ Regular, $10 ☐ Scholastic (under 19), $5 ☐ Affiliate, $15

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- ***Queen of Hearts*** *Display ad (mark your calendar!)*
- *Play chess anytime, anyplace (3 one-day tournaments held monthly)*
- *Annotated games by Ulric Aeria, Bill Melvin, Stephen Muhammad*
- *Biographical article on Robert Scrivener by Bobby Edwards*
- *Scholastics: Articles, tournament announcements, crosstable*
- *Much more !*